



## SCALING UP CLIMATE SERVICES FOR FARMERS IN AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA

PROPOSAL WRITING AND PLANNING WORKSHOP WEST AFRICA



### **JULY 2013**

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JULY 2013 Prepared for:

United States Agency for International Development Climate Change Resilient Development Program

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#### **DISCLAIMER**

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government

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## **ACRONYMS**

AGRHYMET AGRrometeorology, HYdrology, METeorology

AMMA African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analyses

CCAF Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security

CCRD USAID Climate Change Resilient Development project

CSP Climate Services Partnership

ICRISAT International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics

NARS National Agricultural Research Systems

NMHSs National Hydro-Meteorological Services

PAR Participatory action research

UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

USAID United States Agency for International Development

WMO World Meteorological Organization

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the face of increasing climate variability and the projected impacts of climate change, provision of climate information and advisory services offer great potential to facilitate farmer decision-making, improve management of climate-related agricultural risk, and help farmers adapt to change. In order to address the challenges of producing, communicating, delivering and evaluating effective climate information and advisory services that can support vulnerable farming communities; and to identify practical actions to address those challenges at scale, the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United States Aid for International Development (USAID) and the Climate Services Partnership (CSP) convened a workshop on "Scaling Up Climate Services for Farmers in Africa and South Asia" from 10 to 12 December, 2012 in Saly, Senegal.

Through extensive discussion, participants collectively identified critical gaps in the design, delivery and effective use of climate-related information for risk management among smallholder farmers in these regions, and prioritized ideas for overcoming these gaps. In the final sessions of the workshop, participants self-organized into working groups to flesh out actionable ideas for addressing these challenges, within and across regions. USAID committed to supporting the further development of these innovative ideas into viable proposals, by holding proposal-writing workshops in June-July 2013 and offering seed grants to be awarded to proposals emerging from these workshops on a competitive basis.

This Proposal Writing and Planning Workshop brought together working groups that submitted actionable ideas focused on West Africa. The workshop was held in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Dakar, Senegal. The aim of this workshop is to enable West Africa regional working groups convened in Saly to develop viable proposals for implementing their ideas, either through converging on a single idea or working as individual groups.

Eighteen participants from 7 countries ie., Burkina Faso, Italy, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal; two participants from an international organization (ICRISAT-Hyderabad and ICRISAT-Mali) and one participant from an UN Agency (WMO) attended the workshop. In addition, Dr Mannava Sivakumar, Senior Consultant from Switzerland and Ms Lyly Njinga from Engility, USA served as facilitators for the workshop. The detailed list of participants is shown in Annex I. Agenda for the workshop is shown in Annex II.

## I.I. INTRODUCTION, TASK AND CONTEXT FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The workshop started at 0900 hrs on Monday, 1 July with a brief introduction of the participants. Dr Mannava Sivakumar, Senior Consultant from Switzerland made a presentation on the Task and Context for Project Development (please see the power point presentation "Sivakumar Dakar Workshop.ppt" which is sent separately). He described the importance of agriculture sector for the livelihoods of subsistence farmers in Africa and South Asia and the need for doubling food production by 2050 in the developing countries. He described the food security issues for the next 30 years in Sub-Saharan Africa and the need for scaling up climate services to bolster the long-term resilience of farming communities in the face of the resource challenge, raise their awareness of resource-related risks and opportunities and create appropriate safety nets to mitigate the impacts of the risks. He then described the different climate services needed for farm management. Dr Sivakumar then described the outcomes of the workshop held in Saly, Senegal in December 2012. In the final sessions of the workshop, participants from West Africa self-organized into working groups to flesh out actionable ideas for addressing these challenges. Dr Sivakumar then informed the participants about the commitment from USAID for supporting the further development of these

innovative ideas into viable proposals, by holding this proposal writing and planning workshop and offering seed grants to be awarded to the proposals on a competitive basis.

Dr Sivakumar then described the task on hand which is to enable the West Africa working groups to further develop the ideas proposed at the Saly workshop, into a strategic vision and roadmap for increasing the benefits of climate services for smallholder farming communities; and to develop viable funding proposals to begin implementation of the vision and roadmap. He informed the participants that as an immediate task, the concepts provided by the leaders of the working groups will be reviewed and then a concept note will be developed for a project proposal that will describe their vision for scaling up climate services for small holder communities and set of actions and investments necessary to achieve that vision. Dr Sivakumar then described the tasks for the following four days of the workshop, which will focus on developing the small grant proposal.

## I.2. PRESENTATION ON CCAFS WEST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAM

Dr Abdoulaye Moussa, Science Officer, Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) West Africa Regional Program made a presentation (please see the power point presentation "Abdoulaye Moussa CCAFS West Africa Regional Program.pptx" which is sent separately) on their program. West African agriculture is mainly rainfed and subsistence agriculture: cereals based, roots and tuber, legumes, some cash crops and is the major source of livelihood for about 290 million. It employs 60% of the active labor force and contributes to 35% GDP. Climate variability and climate change are major threats to agriculture and thus food security in West Africa. Hence strategies and plans for adaptation to both climate change and climate variability are key to countries and communities to ensure that continued development in vulnerable areas is resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Dr Abdoulaye Moussa explained that current seasonal and weather forecasts issued by national weather services are supply driven and do not necessarily reflect understanding of end-user needs (farmers). Accurate climate forecast information that could assist with agricultural management decisions (planting, fertilization, harvesting) could help improve productivity and profitability, as well as reduce losses. Effective adaptation to climate variability and climate change is highly dependent on access and use of climate information for the coming seasons and years to enable decision-making for the present and the future, hence there is a need to tailor climate information to the needs of farmers.

CCAFS sites in West Africa include Kaffrine (Senegal), Segou (Mali), Yatenga (Burkina Faso), Lawra-Jirapa (Ghana) and Kollo (Niger). CCAFS Theme 2 in West Africa addresses five issues including tailoring climate information to the needs of West African Farmers; historic weather data reconstruction methodology development, data set development and capacity building; documentation and preparation of AMMA data in support of crop and rangeland forecasting; evaluation of Mali's agrometeorological advisory program of Mali, with a view toward strengthening and upscaling; and climate risk management through PAR. Key partners include AGRHYMET, NMHSs, NARS, farmers and decentralized government directorates.

From 2011 to 2013, CCAFS West Africa Program placed emphasis on strengthening capacity of farmers and NMHSs on seasonal forecast communication and evaluation. The lessons learnt included: the need for strong engagement and participation of local stakeholders; emphasis on farmers needs first: demand driven; acknowledge indigenous knowledge and combine it with scientific forecasts; capacity strengthening; evaluation and regular feedback; and monitoring and evaluation.

The concept of "Climate Smart Village" in CCAFS includes six aspects: climate services, designed diversification, community management of resources, capacity building, mitigation/carbon sequestration, and weather insurance.

The way forward includes: strengthening scientific capacity of AGRHYMET and NHMSs to develop improved seasonal climate forecasts, downscaled to subnational level; development of technical groups schemes that will provide agrometeorological assistance (agromet advisories) and develop communication mechanisms to reach end-users (e.g. through rural radio, ICT...) and marginalized groups (women through specific communication channels); and identifying strategies for food systems management to respond to climate shocks and consecutive disasters, and developing approaches for precautionary management of long-term climate risks.

## 1.3. SUMMARY OF INITIAL CONCEPTS PROPOSED AT SALY WORKSHOP

At the Saly Workshop, two groups from West Africa worked on the development of initial proposals. One group proposed a "Group communication" activity that aims at addressing the communications gap between agro-climatic information producers and users, which includes inappropriately technical language and insufficient communication pathways, with the goal of enabling better crop management, improved yields, increase in incomes, and increased awareness of the importance of climate in agriculture. The proposed activity would employ participatory approaches to involve farmers and address gender challenges in communications.

A second group proposed an activity around "Capacity-building" which aims to create sustainable conditions for enabling actors in West Africa to supply and effectively use climate services. Through a focus on participatory development of solutions and mobilization of trained local intermediaries, the project will help to introduce technologies built upon farmers' indigenous knowledge systems and existing social groups and networks to enhance ownership and sustainability. Potential methods to be employed include sensitization seminars and collaboration with known institutes on agrometeorological services and knowledge in capacity building for the purposes of knowledge transfer.

A third concept from West Africa entitled "Mali: Support to farmer adaptation to climate variability and change" was submitted after the Saly workshop. This activity targets gaps in Mali's existing agrometeorological advisory program, including the need for additional farmer requested information (and the need for additional research to produce it and support for dissemination once available), and the need for the inclusion of famers' know-how and local knowledge for the production of more locally salient forecasts.

### 1.4. DEVELOPMENT OF GENERAL CONCEPT NOTES

Dr Sivakumar informed the participants about the expected outcomes of the workshop which include the development of general concept notes by working groups that describe their vision for scaling up climate services for smallholder farming communities, and a set of actions and investments necessary to achieve that vision. Funding proposals developed in the latter part of the workshop should address subsets of that larger vision. Dr Sivakumar made a short PowerPoint presentation on the template for the concept note (please see the power point presentation "Sivakumar Template for Concept Note.ppt" which is sent separately).

The participants then divided themselves into separate groups to address different aspects of the concept note. Following these discussions, the participants met in a plenary session to review the draft descriptions under each of the aspects of the concept note and finalized it (Annex III).

## I.5. PRESENTATION ON SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR GENERIC PROPOSALS

Dr Sivakumar informed the participants about the next step i.e., the preparation of small grant proposals. He made the power point presentation prepared by Mr. Joseph Donahue of Stratus Consulting on "Grant Application Requirements and Tips for Drafting Good Proposals" (please see the power point presentation "Donahue, Developing Good Proposals" which is sent separately).

Dr Sivakumar reiterated the goal for the reminder of the week which is developing strong, well-written proposals. He informed the participants that well-written proposals provide a clear roadmap for the project if the grant is awarded and make it easier for the reviewers to verify that all the necessary requirements are met. He reminded the participants that this is a competitive grant application solicitation and described Section B of the Grant Proposal, which includes program description; CVs/resumes of key personnel; timeline of activities; schedule of proposed deliverables and CCRD Indicators. Using suitable examples from previous small grant proposal submissions, he described the need to address key questions in program description such as why; who; what; where; when; what outcomes and how the activity relates to the grant application evaluation criteria.

Dr Sivakumar then provided a sample program description outline including introduction/context; program of Activities; and synthesis of activities and expected outcomes. He suggested that for each activity subsections such as objectives and obstacles to be addressed (e.g., access, equity); key team members and personnel; geographic setting; timing (generally); detailed description of what the activity will involve and how it will be implemented; outcomes and relationship to grant application evaluation criteria (e.g., scalability). He then provided tips on drafting clear proposals.

Dr Sivakumar explained the Solicitation Evaluation Criteria versus CCRD Performance Indicators. Grant proposals will be considered for review if they are deemed to be complete (i.e., they include all the required materials and information) and will be reviewed based on the evaluation criteria identified in the solicitation (e.g., Degree of South-South collaboration and interdisciplinarity). Applicants are asked to provide CCRD performance indicator inputs so that their projects (should they be funded) can be more readily factored in to the annual targets that are set for USAID. Indicator inputs will not be considered in the review per se. However, thoughtful consideration of results and commitment to a set of indicators demonstrates that the applicant is prepared to monitor progress in a way that is desired by CCRD (and USAID), which is a consideration under the evaluation criterion Alignment with the goals of this solicitation (30%). Hence applicants should focus on the evaluation criteria identified in the solicitation, but should also demonstrate in their proposals that they are prepared to rigorously track and evaluate progress (e.g., by monitoring a set indicators).

## I.6. PRESENTATION ON PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGILITY SOLICITATION

Dr Sivakumar then invited Ms Lyly Njinga of Engility to make her presentation on "Grant Budget and Compliance" (please see the power point presentation "Engility CCRD Grant Budget and Compliance" which is sent separately).

Ms Njinga described the contents of the Grant Application Form which include information about the organization and Due Diligence Forms (responsible organization with a mission that mirrors proposed project and goals of CCRD); program description and certifications as required by USAID. She then described the general budgeting considerations.

Ms Njinga then gave a detailed description of the unallowable costs which include, for example, any purchases that are not necessary to execute the grant activity, including any grantee headquarter expenses that are not directly linked to the implementation of the proposed project; profit or fee; indirect costs (under

simplified grants); fine, penalties, previous obligations or bad debt; activities that contribute to the destruction, deterioration, or the degradation of natural resources and/or environment etc., Ms Njinga informed the participants about restricted costs, which require prior, written approval from CCRD Grants Manager. These include agricultural products; purchase (not rental) of motorized vehicles; pharmaceutical products; used equipment; North American surplus equipment and fertilizer. The budget format should include summary budget (broken down by major line-item categories); detailed budget (which breaks down categories into units and unit costs); and budget Notes/Narrative. Ms Njinga suggested that each cost be described with sufficient detail for CCRD to understand how the organization proposes to spend the program funding and that prime and sub budgets must be submitted separately.

Ms Njinga then described the different cost categories including personnel, fringe costs and travel. She described the airline travel rules and the details on per diem, which include lodging, meals and other incidental travel expenses. Ms Njinga then provided details on other cost categories such as communications and administrative supplies and equipment. Ms Njinga emphasized that the budget narrative should present clear descriptions and explanations of all your project costs by line item cost category; provide enough detail for CCRD to understand fully how its money will be spent on the project and elaborate fully about any unique or excessively high costs. She described the aspect of cost sharing which is defined as project costs to be paid with non-US Government funds.

Ms Njinga reminded the participants that if they are planning budget changes that exceed the award's significant rebudgeting threshold, or that will significantly alter the activities being undertaken, they should write a memo to the Grants Manager requesting the approval. Ms Njinga concluded her presentation giving details on different sources of information.

## 1.7. DISCUSSION ON THE MODALITIES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT GRANT PROPOSALS

Dr Sivakumar presented the format of the small grant proposal and reminded the participants of the tasks ahead to prepare the draft proposals by the morning of Friday, 5 July. He suggested that the participants could identify a leader who could guide the discussions on the preparation of the draft proposal. Participants then selected Dr Abdoulaye Moussa of CCAFS West Africa Regional Program to serve as the leader.

As per the procedure followed during the preparation of the concept note on the first day, the participants decided that two groups would meet separately to prepare the draft paragraphs for each of the items in the small grant proposal template.

## 1.8. PARALLEL MEETINGS OF GROUPS 1 AND 2 FOR DEVELOPING DRAFT GRANT PROPOSALS AND JOINT PLENARY SESSIONS TO REVIEW PROGRESS

From the afternoon of Tuesday, 2 July to the morning of Friday, 5 July Groups 1 and 2 met in parallel meetings in separate meeting rooms. Each morning, a plenary session was held bringing the two groups together to evaluate the progress, exchange views on work carried out and decide on further course of action.

By the afternoon of Friday, 5 July, the participants prepared a draft proposal (please see Annex 5).

# 2. DISCUSSION ON THE WAY FORWARD

In the afternoon of Friday, 5 July, Dr Abdoulaye Moussa led the discussion on Way Forward in the plenary session. He highlighted the need for all the participants to work through email exchanges over the following two weeks to complete the remaining sections in the proposal and prepare a detailed Excel Budget sheet taking into account the suggestions made by Dr Sivakumar and Ms Lyly Njinga.

Dr Abdoulaye Moussa proposed the final deadline of 22 July 2013 for the preparation of the final grant proposal. Prior to this deadline, all efforts would be made to engage all the participants in the workshop in the detailed discussions on the outstanding items and complete the preparation of the grant proposal.

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## **APPENDIX B: AGENDA**

Monday, 1 July 2013	
09:00 - 9:30 hrs	Presentation outlining task and context for proposal development.
	Dr. Mannava Sivakumar
09:30 - 10:00 hrs	Presentation by CCAFS West Africa Science Officer.
	Dr. Abdoulaye Moussa.
10:00 – 10:30 hrs	Status review of initial concept provided by working group leaders, including gaps
	that need to be developed further during the workshop.
10:30 - 11:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
11:00 - 13:00 hrs	Working groups develop concept notes for proposals.
13:00 - 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30 hrs	Concept note writing by Working Groups (contd.)
15:30 – 16:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00 hrs	Concept note writing by Working Groups (contd.)
Tuesday, 2 July 2013	
09:00 - 10:00 hrs	Presentation of Concept Notes by Working Group leaders
10:00 - 10:30 hrs	Presentation on suggested outline for generic proposals.
	Dr. Mannava Sivakumar
10:30 - 11:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
11:00 - 11:30 hrs	Presentation on proposal requirements for Engility solicitation
	Dr. Mannava Sivakumar/Lyly Njinga (Engility)
11:30 - 13:00 hrs	Working Groups begin proposal writing.
13:00 - 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30 hrs	Proposal writing (contd.)
15:30 – 16:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00 hrs	Proposal writing (contd.)
Wednesday, 3 July 2013	
00.00 0.201	
09:00 - 9:30 hrs	Presentation of Progress reports from Working Group leaders.
09:30 - 10:30 hrs	Proposal writing (contd.)
10:30 - 11:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
11:30 - 13:00 hrs	Proposal writing and revision Lunch.
13:00 - 14:00 hrs	<del></del>
14:00 - 15:30 hrs	Proposal writing and revision (contd.) Tea/Coffee break
15:30 – 16:00 hrs 16:00 – 17:00 hrs	·
10.00 – 17.00 IIIS	Proposal writing and revision (contd.)
Thursday, 4 July 2013	
09:00 - 9:30 hrs	Presentation of Progress reports from Working Group leaders.
09:30 - 10:30 hrs	Proposal writing (contd.)
10:30 - 11:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
11 20 12 00 1	D 1 1/1 1 11

11:30 - 13:00 hrs Proposal writing and revision

13:00 - 14:00 hrs	Lunch.
14:00 - 15:30 hrs	Proposal writing and revision (contd.)
15:30 – 16:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00 hrs	Proposal writing and revision (contd.)
Friday, 5 July 2013	
09:00 -10:00 hrs	Presentation of Progress reports from Working Group leaders.
10:00 - 10:30 hrs	Discussion on way forward.
10:30 - 11:00 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
11:00 - 13:00 hrs	Finalization of proposal.
13:00 - 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 - 16:00 hrs	Finalization of proposal (contd.)
16:00 – 16:30 hrs	Tea/Coffee break
16:30 - 17:00 hrs	Closing remarks

## APPENDIX C: CONCEPT NOTE

## EFFECTIVE PRODUCTION AND COMMUNICATION OF CLIMATE INFORMATION AND SERVICES TO IMPROVE ON-FARM DECISION-MAKING BY SMALL HOLDER FARMERS IN WEST AFRICA

### INTRODUCTION

In West Africa, there are millions of smallholder farmers in the semi-arid and sub-humid regions whose livelihoods depend on subsistence agriculture. Climate variability and the growing incidence of climate extremes is affecting agriculture productivity in these regions and there is a need to facilitate effective operational decision-making by smallholder farmers by the use of weather and seasonal forecast in order to adopt the most appropriate strategies. Consequently, it is important to improve the production and communication of climate information and services.

There is a lack of information related also to inadequacy of the means used. Since most of the farmers are illiterate, they are unable to use the ICTs (mobile phones, SMS). Local community radios should be a solution to this problem but their coverage is not widespread. NMHS should find the ways and means to translate information into local languages so as to reach their targets. Hence, it is important to establish an effective dialogue between users and climate service providers.

### UNDERSTANDING OF CLIMATE INFORMATION AND PRODUCTS

In order to increase the production of smallholder farmers, it is important to empower them in the field of climate risk management and supply all the necessary information related to climate variability. Today the technology of crop simulation models and the use of climate databases have advanced considerably to provide appropriate climate information to the smallholder farmers for more effective management of their cropping systems.

### **VISION**

To ensure that by 2020, over 50% of smallholder farmers in West Africa have access to and make better use of climate information and products to enhance on-farm decision making.

### **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Improve the provision of climate information tailored to the needs of smallholder farmers
- 2. Enhance timely access and uptake of climate information by smallholder farmers
- 3. Enhance smallholder farmers' on-farm decision making

### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- 1. Agricultural productivity increased by 50%
- 2. At least 50% of farmers have access to and use timely climate information
- 3. Farmers' vulnerability to climate is reduced by 50%
- 4. Improved quality of climate information
- 5. Platform of exchange between farmers and climate information and services providers

### **COLLABORATING PARTNERS**

- 1. National meteorological and hydrological services
- 2. Agricultural research and extension services
- 3. Regional centers and institutions
- 4. Universities and academic institutions
- 5. NGOs, civil society and private sector (ICT)
- 6. Local decentralized public directorates (agriculture, livestock, environment, etc.)
- 7. UN and international agricultural research centers
- 8. Farmers associations
- 9. media

### **ESTIMATED BUDGET AND TIMELINE**

Budget: US\$ 5 million
 Timeline: 2014-2019

## APPENDIX D: GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Note: All grant applications must be submitted in English. Also, the organization(s) awarded small grants must submit all deliverables, invoices, etc. in English.

<b>SECTION</b>	SECTION   Applicant Information							
$\boldsymbol{A}$								
1. Name of		Climate Change, Agricult	ture and Foo	od	2. Date of		July 25th 2013	
Applicant		Security (CCAFS) Resear	ch Program	West	Application	Į.		
Organization	ı	Africa Regional Program						
3. Address of	f	ICRISAT West and Cent	ral Africa R	egional	Hub			
Applicant		PO Box 320, Bamako, M	IALI					
Organization	ı							
4. Contact Po	erson: Tha	is should be someone who has fu	ull authority a	nd respon	nsibility to act on	behalf of the o	organization and	
		with the grant activity.		1	9	5 5		
a. Name:		Dr Robert Zougmo	oré b. Email		Address:	r.zougmore@cgiar.org		
c. Title		Regional Program Lea	d. Phone		Number: +		20709200	
		CCAFS West Afric	ca e					
5. Alternate (	Contact P	erson: This should be someon	ne who has ful	l authori	ty and responsib	ility to act on b	ehalf of the	
organization and	d who will b	e directly involved with the gran	t activity.					
a. Name:		Abdoulaye Saley Mou	issa b.	Email.	Address:	a.s.moussa@cgiar.org		
c. Title		Science Officer CCAFS		d. Phone Number: +		+223	+223 20709200	
Regional Program West Africa								
		nbering Systems						
(DUNS) Number if US-based organization:								
SECTION	Grant Pr	roposal						
В								

1. Program Description. Please describe in detail the program of activities proposed by the applicant. The program description must be results-oriented. What will be achieved at the end of the grant period? Description should also include objectives, tasks to be undertaken, proposed geographic setting, and relevance of the project to this grant program's objectives. The program description should explicitly address the evaluation criteria described in the solicitation and in the cover letter to the applicant. The Program Description should be no longer than six (6) pages, single-spaced.

Please review Annex I. GCC Indicator Definition Handbook and provide target indicators for your project that would be used for project level monitoring and evaluation, to track grants activities and for reporting purposes. These targets would include workshop participant lists (days and hours of training, male vs. female), number of institutes that participated in workshops (Not including CCRD or USAID), trainings, new investment leverage, improved institutional capacity, new tools and methodologies tested, climate vulnerability assessments, etc.

### **CCRD Performance Indicators and Achievements**

			Acl	nievem	ent – FY	2013		COND
#	Indicator	Target/ Unit	QTR 1	QT R 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	Remark s	CCRD Cumulative FY3
2	Number of interdisciplinary working groups Number of institutions members of IWG capacitated with increased capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change Number of stakeholders	5 75 25						
	(NGOs and development partners) capacitated with increased capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change  Number of roving seminars conducted	10						
3	Number of smallholder farmers trained to better understand climate services information and manage climate risks (men)	<mark>400</mark>						
4	Number of smallholder farmers trained to better understand climate services information and manage climate risks (women)	100						
5	Number of farmers with increased capacity to understand climate information services (men)	10000						

6	Number of farmers with	<b>25</b> 00				
	increased capacity to					
	understand climate					
	information services (women)					
7	Number of climate information tools, methodologies tested and developed	<mark>5</mark>				
3	Number of intermediaries stakeholders capacitated to better communicate climate service information	<mark>75</mark>				
	Number of communication channels innovated	3				

### 1. Program Description

### Enhancing timely access and communication of climate information services for better support to agricultural decisions by smallholder farmers in West Africa

#### 1.1. Overview

Agriculture in West Africa is the major source of livelihood for over 290 million inhabitants. It employs about 60% of the active labor force (mainly small-scale farmers) and contributes to 30–50% of gross domestic product. The performance of the agricultural sector mostly subsistence-oriented is highly dependent on rainfall and other impediment such as soil fertility and land degradation. Inter and intra annual rainfall variability (amount and distribution) and shifts in rainfall patterns translate into sizeable year-to-year variations in the yields of major staple crops (millet, sorghum, maize, cowpea, etc.). Climate change will have far reaching consequences for the poor and marginalized groups among which the majority depend on agriculture for their livelihood and have a lower capacity to adapt. Weather related crop failures, fisheries collapse and livestock deaths are causing economic losses. Food insecurity and malnutrition are recurrent and widespread and thus poverty levels increase. The impacts of changing climate will challenge production systems already under pressure to produce more to feed a growing population.

Although uncertainties remain on future climate change scenarios in West Africa, various models indicated a ma

Climate variability and the growing incidence of climate extremes is affecting agriculture productivity in these regions and there is a need to facilitate effective operational decision-making by smallholder farmers by the use of weather and seasonal forecast in order to adopt the most appropriate strategies. Consequently, it is important to improve the production and communication of climate information and services.

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Climate variability and the growing incidence of climate extremes is affecting agriculture productivity in these regions and there is a need to facilitate effective operational decision-making by smallholder farmers by the use of weather and seasonal forecast in order to adopt the most appropriate strategies. Consequently, it is important to improve the production and communication of climate information and services.

We realize that there is lack of information related also to inadequacy of the means used. Since most of the farmers are illiterate, they are unable to use the ICTs (mobile phones, SMS). Local community radios should be a solution to this problem but their coverage is not widespread. NMHS should find the ways and means to translate information into local languages so as to reach their targets. Hence, it is important to establish an effective dialogue between users and climate service providers.

Using climate information to adapt to anticipated changes is an important step that communities can take to become less vulnerable to global change.

### Previous experiences communicating Climates Services for Farmers in Africa

Previous experiences in West Africa (roving seminars, METAGRI operational in many countries coordinated by WMO, CCAFS, MaliMet exp, ...) have attempted to communicate climate services for smallholder farmers.

The METAGRI project is an WMO and Western Africa NMHS over 15 countries that have performed more than 300 seminars from 2008 to 2012. More than 10.000 farmers and agriculture extension farmers have been trained in the use of climate and weather information for better food security and increased agricultural production. That project was inspired mainly from the long term experience raised by Malian institutions. In relation with that experience....

Results from Mali assessment

All these experiences have however stumbled on the difficulty of reaching thousands of farmers, at scale, with climate services.

This project aims to pilot / identify and recommend best practice in the upscaling of climate services across West Africa, resting on three main pillars:

- 1. Strengthening Groupes de Travail Pluridisciplinaires (Interdisciplinary Workking Groups), the coordinated institutional frameworks for the generation of integrated farmer-focused climate services in five (5) countries in West Africa (Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger)
- 2. Strengthening capacity of rural smallholder farmers to access and utilize climate services, resting on a better understanding of their communication channels needed to receive climate services and also bi-directional communication platforms;
- 3. Development of an improved methodology to train farmers at scale to access and use climate services, building on experiences from MetAgri, CCAFS pilots and other experiences across Africa and South Asia training farmers to access services.

In view of the demonstrated potential of timely access and use of climate information by smallholder farmers to improve on-farm decision-making, several development partners have invested to support scaling up efforts in West Africa. More and better use of climate service will enable smallholders to cope with the natural variability and adapt to the impacts resulting from global climate change. But poor access and use of this climate information continue to constraint smallholder farmers from harnessing the potential of using climate information to increase agricultural productivity and production.

Strong variability on rainfall (give reference, scenario for CC, data to back up)

Existing climate services and trials ion to make available climate information but need to be improved to meet variability

Success experiences demonstrating the added value of climate information on crop production

Gender and agriculture in west Africa

List types of vulnerabilities (flash flood, extreme events, drought, none climate, ...) to better manage risk

Relevance of accessing climate information on time for on farm management decision (number and results)

Understanding of climate information and products.

In order to increase the production of smallholder farmers, it is important to empower them in the field of climate risk management and supply all the necessary information related to climate variability. Today the technology of crop simulation models and the use of climate databases have advanced considerably to provide appropriate climate information to the smallholder farmers for more effective management of their cropping systems.

### 1.1. Goal and objectives

The overall goal of the project is to improve access to and uptake of climate information and services to better support agricultural decision-making by smallholder farmers in semi-arid west Africa. The project goal will be achieved through the following specific objectives: 1) improve coordination in the production of climate information and agro-advisories services tailored to the needs of end users, 2) strengthening the capacity of smallholder farmers to better understand climate information and effectively manage climate risks and 3) improve communication approaches and channels to ensure timely uptake and use of climate information and agro-advisories services.

The project will be implemented in five (Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal) countries pilot in West Africa. In each country 5 sites in different agro-ecological zones will be selected to serve as laboratories for implementing this project. The project will use a set of participatory approaches centered on smallholder farmers needs (demand-driven) to ensure ownership of the project outcomes by them. The following conceptual framework will guide to achieve the project results.

### 1.2. Description of project specific objectives

### 1) Specific objective 1. Improve the functionality of the interdisciplinary working groups and coordination in the production of climate information and agro-advisories services

Delivering tailored climate services that can effectively inform the decision-making is a multi-front challenge and requires a multi-disciplinary and cross-sector collaboration (e.g. national meteorological services, national department of agriculture, livestock and fisheries, etc.) and an agreed upon framework within which such collaboration can take place. A climate service requires appropriate and iterative engagement to produce a timely advisory that end users can comprehend and which can aid their decision-making and enable early action and preparedness¹ Improving coordination among the wide range of stakeholders and services providers is a daunting task to ensure that smallholder farmers needs are addressed in a coherent and holistic approach in delivering climate information and agro-advisories services. In the five countries pilot, interdisciplinary workings were established through past projects/activities with the aim to coordinate the production of climate information and agro-advisories services. Approaches and operational mechanisms differ from one country to another. This specific objective aims to address this challenge of improving the coordination in the production of climate information and agro-advisories services to meet the needs of smallholder farmers.

To achieve this objective, the following set of activities will be implemented:

### Activity 1.1 Review of existing climate information services portfolio in the five pilot countries

The interdisciplinary groups play a critical role in coordinating the production of climate information and agro-advisories services to meet the needs of smallholder farmers. A desk review of existing climate information services portfolio will be conducted to capitalize on the existing and identify gaps to be filled.

Activity 1.2 Strengthen the functionality of the interdisciplinary working groups to better coordinate the production of climate services information

IWG exists in each of the 5 countries. Their working mechanism and effectiveness in the production and coordination of the climate services information vary from one country to another. This activity aims to review the functionality of the interdisciplinary working groups, identify gaps and strengthens to propose a better mechanism to enable IWG to deliver in the production of climate services information to the smallholder farmers.

### Activity 1.3. Stakeholders consultation workshop

The regional workshop will bring farmers, farmers organizations, intermediaries and climate services providers, extension services to discuss among others a) users needs of climate information and agroadvisories services, b) strengthen two ways dialogue between climate services providers and end users, c) review project available information, and d) strategize on the best way to scale up the climate services information to reach the last miles smallholder farmers.

SCALING UP CLIMATE SERVICES FOR FARMERS IN AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA PROPOSAL WRITING AND PLANNING WORKSHOP WEST AFRICA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tall A. 2013. What do we mean by climate services. In The Journal of the World Meteorological Organization Vol 62, pp7-11

### 2) Specific objective 2. Strengthening capacity of smallholder farmers on better understanding of climate information and effective management of climate risks

Currently farmers strategies are not up to confront on climate variability and to better manage climate risks. The support of better climate information has proven to be efficient, nevertheless understanding climate information is a key step to enable them to make better use of the information to cope with climate risks. The aim of this objective is to enhance understanding of climate information by smallholder farmers in order to better support on-farm decision-making.

Activity 2.1: Develop and validate a model of improved roving seminar approach to train farmers at scale

This activity aims to capitalize on existing experiences of roving seminars in the countries to (taking into consideration gaps, opportunities and feedback from smallholder farmers and other stakeholders) experiences from East Africa to propose an improved model of roving seminars that can be used to reach more farmers.

2.1.1 Develop a model of training farmers at scale based on the METAGRI experiences and other reviews (East and West Africa and South Asia) – desk review

Activity 2.2: Conduct and test improved roving seminars approach

This activity aims to capitalize on existing experiences of roving seminars in the countries to (taking into consideration gaps, opportunities and feedback from smallholder farmers and other stakeholders) experiences from East Africa to propose an improved model of roving seminars that can be used to reach more farmers.

### 3) Specific objective 3. Improve information delivery models (communication channels) to enhance timely access and uptake of climate services information

Despite strengthen farmers capacity to better understand climate information, a key issue is how to improve communication approaches to ensure that climate information reach farmers in appropriate format and at on time. This objective aims to address the challenge of communicating timely climate information to reach end users timely.

Activity 3.1. Review of existing and most effective communication channels climate information to end users and identification of gaps and opportunities

This activity aims to make an inventory and assessment of existing climate information delivery models and strategies available, identification of gaps and promising models to facilitate smallholder farmers access and use of information

- 3.1.1 Desk review of existing channels of communication (focus on climate)
- 3.1.2. Assessment of the most appropriate delivery models by smallholder farmers.

Activity 3.2 Strengthening the capacity of the intermediaries (medias, NGOs, extension and ICT) on better understanding and communicating climate information and agro-advisories services

This activity aims to inform, sensitize and capacitate medias to better comprehend climate services information in order better address the needs by smallholder farmers.

Activity 3.3 Understand best practices from South Asia and East Africa on how to involve private sector and testing of best promising channels/approaches for communicating climate services information to smallholder farmers.

Deliverable: Operational roadmap on how to involve the private sector to communicate climate services information

2. CVs/Resumes of key personnel are attached to this Application Form. *Please highlight especially their*■ experiences that are relevant to the grant activity (Label as "Attachment C – CVs")

3. Timeline of Activities. Please provide an outline of when you expect the various activities envisioned in your Program Description to take place. It should align with the "Schedule of Proposed Deliverables" below.

Activities	S	О	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	Jl	A
1.1 Review of existing climate information services												
portfolio in the five pilot countries												
1.2 Strengthening of IWG at national level												
1.3. Regional stakeholders workshop												
2.1. Development of improved roving seminar												
approach to train farmers at scale												
2.2. Conduct and test improved roving seminars												
approach												
3.1. Review of existing and most effective												
communication channels climate information to end												
users and identification of gaps and opportunities												
3.2. Strengthening the capacity of the												
intermediaries on better understanding and												
communicating climate information												
Final report (development of a regional roadmap to												
scale up climate services information).												

4. Schedule of Proposed Deliverables. For example: reports, published papers, workshops, case studies

Deliverable	Description of Content	Delivered No Later Than
Review Report (A1.1)	This report will provide a comprehensive list of existing climate services information in the 5 pilot countries. A critical analysis of the gaps and strengthens will be identified and feed into the interdisciplinary working group workshop.	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2013
Workshop Report (A1.2) Model of IWG	The workshop report will provide summary of key discussions. It will also provide guidelines on mechanisms to establish and maintain functional an IWG in order to coordinate the production and communication of climate services information	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2014
Workshop Report (A1.3)	The report will describe the outcomes of the regional stakeholders' consultation. End users climate information needs will be identified, functional model of IWG validated, a strategy to scale up the project will be defined during the workshop.	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2014
Review Report (A2.1)	The report will provide an assessment of the current model of roving seminars, identify weaknesses and strengthens. It will provide a methodology for an upgraded roving seminar model that will be tested and developed.	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2014
Workshop Report (A2.2)	The report will describe the testing of the upgraded model of roving seminars.  activities on assessment of existing channels of communication of climate information and identification of the most appropriate delivery models by smallholder farmers	15 <sup>th</sup> October 2013
Report (A2.3)	The report will describe outcomes of the national workshops in the 5 pilot countries to sensitize and capacitate intermediaries	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2014
Operational roadmap	The document will describe the ways to involve private sector to communicate climate services information	15th October 2013
Quarterly report (2)		By 15 Dec 2013 By 15 July 2014
Mid-term report (1)		By 15 Mar 2014
Final report (1)		By 15 Oct 2014

## SECTION Budget C

Please submit a budget in EXCEL with all costs listed under the following categories. No costs should be labeled as "miscellaneous" – costs listed should be as detailed as possible – and all costs must be directly related to the grant activity. Please refer to the Solicitation for a list of costs that will not be funded.

I. Labor (ex: staff salaries, consultation	nt fees)	
,		4 ,
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
II. Travel (ex: plane tickets, ground	transportation, visas, hotel)	
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
III. Communications/Administrati	ve (ex: photocopies, film, Fedex fees)	
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
IV. Equipment (non-office supply	materials)	
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
V. Conference/Workshop Fees		
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount
Name/Description of cost	Unit (each/ per day/ per month etc.)	Amount

<u>Non-US Applicants</u>: Budget must be in local currency. The total of the budget should also be shown in US Dollars with the exchange rate documented

<u>US Applicants</u>: Budget must be in US Dollars. If there is any currency conversion, this should be noted and the exchange rate documented.

 $\square$  Budget has been attached to this application form. (Label as "Attachment D – Program Budget")

SEC	TION	Certifications
D		
1.	3.	CERTIFICATION REGARDING TERRORIST FINANCING IMPLEMENTING
	EXEC	CUTIVE ORDER 13224

By signing and submitting this application, the prospective recipient provides the certification set out below: The Recipient, to the best of its current knowledge, did not provide, within the previous ten years, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that it does not and will not knowingly provide, material support or resources to any individual or entity that commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated, or participated in terrorist acts, as that term is defined in paragraph 3.

The following steps may enable the Recipient to comply with its obligations under paragraph 1: Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will verify that the individual or entity does not (i) appear on the master list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons, which list is maintained by the U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and is available online at OFAC's Website: http://www.treas.gov/offices/eotffc/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf, or (ii) is not included in any

supplementary information concerning prohibited individuals or entities that may be provided by USAID to the Recipient.

- a. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient also will verify that the individual or entity has not been designated by the United Nations Security (UNSC) sanctions committee established under UNSC Resolution 1267 (1999) (the "1267 Committee") [individuals and entities linked to the Taliban, Osama bin Laden, or the Al Qaida Organization]. To determine whether there has been a published designation of an individual or entity by the 1267 Committee, the Recipient should refer to the consolidated list available online at the Committee's Website: http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm.
- b. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will consider all information about that individual or entity of which it is aware and all public information that is reasonably available to it or of which it should be aware.
- c. The Recipient also will implement reasonable monitoring and oversight procedures to safeguard against assistance being diverted to support terrorist activities

### A. For purposes of this Certification

- a. "Material support and resources" means currency or monetary instruments or financial securities, financial services, lodging, training, expert advice or assistance, safe-houses, false documentation or identification, communications equipment, facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel, transportation, and other physical assets, except medicine or religious materials."
- b. "Terrorist act" means
  - i. An act prohibited pursuant to one of the 12 United Nations Conventions and Protocols related to terrorism (see UN terrorism conventions Internet site: http://untreaty.un.org/English/Terrorism.asp); or
  - ii. An act of premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents; or
  - iii. Any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.
- B. "Entity" means a partnership, association, corporation, or other organization, group or subgroup.
- C. References in this Certification to the provision of material support and resources shall not be deemed to include the furnishing of USAID funds or USAID-financed commodities to the ultimate beneficiaries of USAID assistance, such as recipients of food, medical care, micro-enterprise loans, shelter, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that one or more of these beneficiaries commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.
- D. The Recipient's obligations under paragraph 1 are not applicable to the procurement of goods and/or services by the Recipient that are acquired in the ordinary course of business through contract or purchase, e.g., utilities, rents, office supplies, gasoline, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that a vendor or supplier of such goods and services commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

Signature of Authorized Representative:		4.	5. ITLE:	6.		
Printed Name:			Date Sig	ned		
2.	7. RECIPIENT CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE					
I,, as a legally authorized						

Name	Title							
representative of								
representative or	Organization Name							
do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this organization's management and other employees responsible for their implementation are aware of the requirements placed on the organization by OMB Circulars, and Federal and USAID regulations with respect to the management of, among other things, personnel policies (including salaries), travel, indirect costs, and procurement under this agreement and I further certify that the organization is in compliance with those requirements.  I, we, understand that a false, or intentionally misleading, certification could be the cause for possible actions ranging from being found not responsible for this award, termination of award, or suspension or debarment of this organization in accordance with Mandatory Standard Provision for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental Recipients, No. 8 entitled, "Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters."  I, we, further agree to instruct the accounting firm that this organization retains to perform its annual audits, as required by ADS 591, to include in their review of our internal controls sufficient testing of the implementation of our personnel, travel and procurement policies to confirm compliance with Federal and USAID requirements. The conclusions of that compliance review will be included in the A-133 audit reports or the incurred cost audit reports submitted to the government. (delete this sentence if non-US organization)  8. I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND								
CORRECT.	10	10 1	1					
Signature of Authorized Representative:	9.	10.   1   ITLE:	1.					
Printed Name:		Date Signe	ed					
3 12. ASSURANO	CE OF COMPLIANCE WITH	O						
NONDISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY ASSISTED PROGRAMS  Only applicable to US organizations and Non-US organizations which have any grant activities that will take place in the United States								
(hereinafter called the "Applicant")  (Name of Applicant)								
hereby assures that no person in the United States shall, on the bases set forth below, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving financial assistance from AID, and that with respect to the grant for which application is being made, it will comply with the requirements of:  (1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352, 42 U.S.C. 2000-d) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance,  (2) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance,  (3) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (Pub. L. 95-478), which prohibits discrimination based on age in the delivery of services and benefits supported with Federal funds,								

(4) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681, et. seq.) which prohibits

discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance (whether or not the programs or activities are offered or sponsored by an educational

(5) AID regulations implementing the above nondiscrimination laws, set forth in Chapter II of Title

institution); and

22 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

If the Applicant is an institution of higher education, the Assurances given herein extend to admission practices and to all other practices relating to the treatment of students or clients of the institution, or relating to the opportunity to participate in the provision of services or other benefits to such individuals, and shall be applicable to the entire institution unless the Applicant establishes to the satisfaction of the AID Administrator that the institution's practices in designated parts or programs of the institution will in no way affect its practices in the program of the institution for which financial assistance is sought, or the beneficiaries of or participants in such program.

This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts or other Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the Applicant by the Agency, including installment payments after such date on account of applications for Federal financial assistance which were approved before such date. The Applicant recognizes and agrees that such Federal financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Assurance, and that the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this Assurance. This Assurance is binding on the Applicant, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this Assurance on behalf of the Applicant.

Signature of Authorized	13.	14.	15.
Representative:		ITLE:	
Printed Name:		Date Signed	

### **U.S.** Agency for International Development

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Washington, DC 20523

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